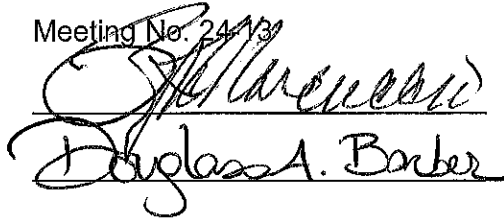


Approved:

Meeting No. 24-13

Attest:



Phyllis Marcuccio  
Douglas A. Barber

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

April 15, 2013  
Meeting No. 13-13  
7:00 p.m.

**Present:**

Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio, Councilmember John F. Hall, Jr., Councilmember Tom Moore, Councilmember Bridget Donnell Newton, and Councilmember Mark Pierzchala.

**Staff Present:**

City Manager Barbara Matthews, City Clerk/Treasurer Doug Barber, and City Attorney Debra Daniel.

**1. Convene**

The Mayor and Council convened in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2013, in the Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Marcuccio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Agenda Review**

City Clerk Doug Barber reported that there were no changes to the agenda.

**4. City Manager's Report**

City Manager Barbara Matthews reported:

- Recent activities in connection with the Rockville City Police Department's reaccreditation.
- WSSC plans to hold a public meeting on improvements in the Rock Creek Basin within the City of Rockville. The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., April 16, 2013, at the Croydon Creek Nature Center.
- The Lions Club presented Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk with the Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest honor given, for his work in developing and guiding a small-town police force into an accredited police department protecting a large urban community.
- Ms. Matthews thanked the Mayor and Council for their questions on the proposed budget and said that staff is working on providing a comprehensive response to all the questions presented.

## 5. **Appointments/Reappointments and Announcements of Vacancies**

Mayor Marcuccio announced vacancies to the following boards/commissions: Board of Appeals, Financial Advisory Board, Historic District Commission, Human Services Advisory Commission, Human Rights Commission, Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission and the Planning Commission.

## 6. **Citizen's Forum**

<i>Citizen</i>	<i>Issue</i>
Julie Palakovich Carr	Participated in stream cleanup at Maryvale Park and mentioned the City's Adopt-a-Stream program.
Beryl Feinberg	Terrific responses to the City's Citizen Survey; need to penetrate all the diverse communities with activities to engage the different populations.

## 7. **Mayor and Council's Response to Citizen's Forum and Announcements**

No responses or announcements were made.

## 8. **Mayor and Council Reports**

Councilmember Hall attended the Americana Centre Annual meeting and heard from State legislators.

Councilmember Pierzchala attended the RBBA opening as well as the Lions Club luncheon where Chief Treschuk was recognized.

Councilmember Newton attended the Rainbow House Day event at the Rockville Presbyterian Church.

## 9. **Proclamation - Arbor Day Proclamation**

Councilmember Newton read the proclamation and presented it to City Forester Wayne Noll.

**Motion:** to proclaim April 23, 2013 as Arbor Day in Rockville.

Moved by Councilmember Newton, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously approved.

## 10. **Consent Agenda - Award of IFB #16-13, Construction of Water Main and Bridge Improvements: West Gude Drive Bridge (MR-11) over I-270 in the amount of \$198,000**

**Motion:** to approve the Consent Agenda (award of IFB #16-13, construction of water main and bridge improvements: West Gude Drive bridge (mr-11) over Icomp-270 in the amount of \$198,000.)

Moved by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Newton, and unanimously approved.

## 11. Presentation - Charter Review Commission - Follow-Up

Steve VanGrack, Chair of the Charter Review Commission (CRC) introduced the members of the CRC who were present and provided the background. Mr. VanGrack said that there was consensus (almost always unanimously) on most issues during CRC discussions. There was one, however, that the CRC could not decide upon and therefore requires the direction of the Mayor and Council. Of the choices presented for ballot questions, should the response options be: **"Yes or No"** or **"Yes or No or No opinion."**

There was broad and general discussion between the Mayor and Council and the CRC on proposed ballot referenda, including:

- should "four year terms" and "coinciding with presidential election" be separate questions?
- the off presidential year is when state and county elections take place and Rockville might get lost in that.
- shorter ballot is better in terms of completing.
- when to start; next election will be for two years and one year later is the Presidential election.
- discussion on the Yes/No option versus the Yes/No/No Opinion option.
- language of the preamble and how would it be structured on the ballot.
- possibility of including three possible responses for questions 1 and 2; two options for question 3.
- Voters need to know that this is not a "definitive" referendum, rather an opinion that will be taken into consideration by the Mayor and Council.
- change the heading to "Advisory Questions."
- possibility of adding language at the end of the introductory paragraph that says "*The Mayor and Council seek your opinion and will take your response into consideration...* "

There was consensus by the Mayor and Council that the proposed questions for the ballot be reworded as follows and the City Attorney will reflect this in the formal resolution for adoption:

Question No. 1 - In the City of Rockville, the term of office for the Mayor and the Councilmembers is currently two years. Do you favor increasing the term from two years to four years?

Yes  
No  
No Opinion

Question No. 2 - City of Rockville elections are currently every two years, in odd-numbered years. Do you favor moving the City election to be held once every four years to coincide with the Presidential Election?

Yes  
No  
No Opinion

Question No. 3 - The City of Rockville is currently governed by a Mayor and four Councilmembers. Do you favor increasing the membership of the Rockville Mayor and Council to a Mayor and six Councilmembers?

Yes  
No  
No Opinion

At the conclusion of the discussion, City Attorney Daniel said that these items would be included in a resolution that would come to the Mayor and Council for formal adoption giving the body a chance to review the proposed changes in final form.

## **12. Public Hearing - FY 2014 Budget Public Hearing**

Mayor Marcuccio opened the public hearing and the Mayor and Council heard from 14 speakers. There being no other speakers, Mayor Marcuccio declared the public hearing closed and said that the record would remain open until May 13, 2013, the date the FY14 budget is scheduled for adoption. A complete transcript of the public hearing can be found in the official file in the office of the City Clerk.

## **13. Worksession - FY 2014 Mayor and Council Budget Worksession**

Stacey Webster, Budget and Finance Manager, provided the staff report. There was broad and general discussion between the Mayor and Council on a variety of proposed CIP items including:

- projects that support pedestrian and bicycle safety
- difference between a 10-year vs. 12-year cycle for the City's asphalt repair and replacement project
- impact to the average residential household for the increase in water, sewer, refuse, and stormwater management services
- possible renovation of one of the King Farm barns to house the City's ballet program currently at Rockcrest (this would provide more space and reduce the need to renovate the Rockcrest facility)
- the stabilization of the Farmstead at King Farm given the deterioration of its structures; look for some creative thinking down the road
- good opportunities to borrow money while rates are so low; \$1 million more debt equals about \$65,000 more debt service per year

- Stonestreet Bridge removal; the need to accommodate the East Rockville pedestrians; at least the addition of more streetlights; the Baltimore Road project is separate from this effort; potential use of the additional HUR money; APS, bridge rehabilitation and sidewalks
- why does the City not receive more federal money for its water pipe repair efforts; most federal money for water goes to the states and is granted on a needs basis
- Rockville is now on a sustainable program and not many water systems can say that; majority of households have 3/4 inch water line and 14,000 gallons is average for residents
- rates expected to increase over the next several years unless we do something differently
- explore water rates further; perhaps adjustment to tiered rates or charge flat rate
- water systems all over the country are facing these same types of struggles
- might be time for another comprehensive cost of service and rate study for City water and sewer systems.

#### **14. Review and Comment Regarding Mayor and Council Action Report**

Regarding the Town Square Merchant's meeting, Councilmember Moore said that the merchants are not having much luck with Duball in terms of securing a construction curtain around the project. He asked that the Mayor and Council assist the merchant's with this effort and that this discussion be added to the list.

Councilmember Newton said that the RedGate Golf Course discussion has not yet been listed and she is still very interested in having the discussion. Additionally, she would like to know when the Maryland Avenue/Falls Road intersection might be added and Ms. Matthews said that she would follow-up with the SHA to see if they are done with their assessment.

#### **15. Review and Comment Regarding Future Agendas**

Mayor Marcuccio asked about the Countywide Transit Corridor item planned for the May 6, 2013 agenda. Craig Simoneau, Director of Public Works, responded that the County's Planning Commission has made its recommendations on changes to rights of way and the May 6 item will be to discuss the proposed letter of testimony from the Mayor and Council, and to give instructions to staff.

#### **16. Old/New Business**

Councilmember Newton commented on the construction noise in the middle of the night with respect to SHA's West Montgomery Avenue asphalt replacement project.

Regarding the City's federal priorities, Councilmember Pierzchala suggested removing the Southlawn Lane rehabilitation project in order to get a 5-0 Mayor and Council vote in support of the priorities.

**Motion:** to remove the Southlawn Lane rehabilitation project from the federal priorities list.

Moved by Councilmember Pierzchala, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously approved.

## **17. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

**Motion:** to adjourn.

Moved by Councilmember Hall, and seconded by Councilmember Newton.